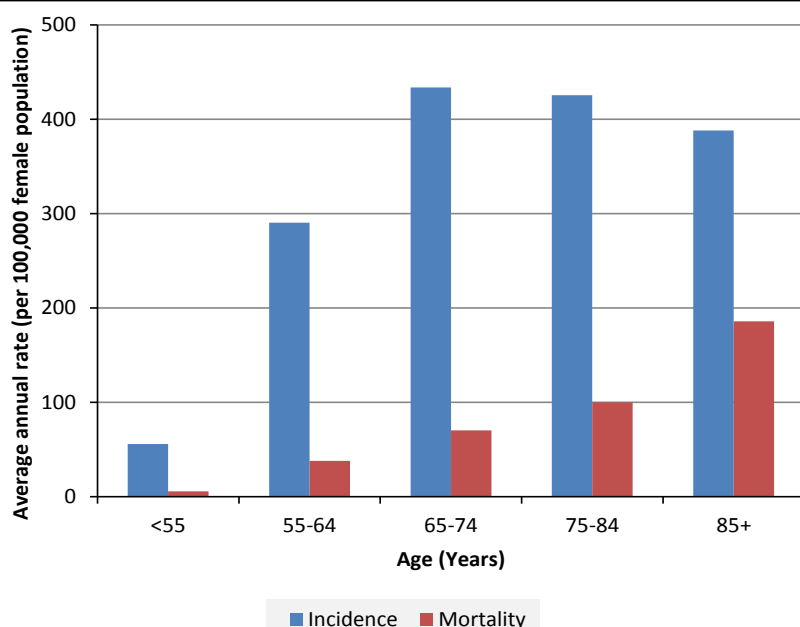


Female Breast Cancer in Nebraska

Figure 1. Invasive Female Breast Cancer Incidence and Mortality Rates, by Age, Nebraska (2008-2012)



Nebraska Female Breast Cancer Quick Facts:

- Between 2008 and 2012, 6,415 Nebraska women were diagnosed with invasive breast cancer, while another 1,469 were diagnosed with an in situ (non-invasive) breast tumor.
- Breast cancer accounted for 1,118 deaths among Nebraska women between 2008 and 2012.
- The rate at which female breast cancer occurs (incidence) and the rate at which people die from it (mortality) increase with age (Figure 1).
- Female breast cancer mortality has decreased, both in Nebraska and nationwide, during the past decade, while incidence has not changed (Figures 2 & 3).
- Female breast cancer incidence and mortality rates in Nebraska are similar to U.S. rates (Figures 2 & 3).

Figure 2. Invasive Female Breast Cancer Incidence Rates, Nebraska & U.S. (2003-2012)

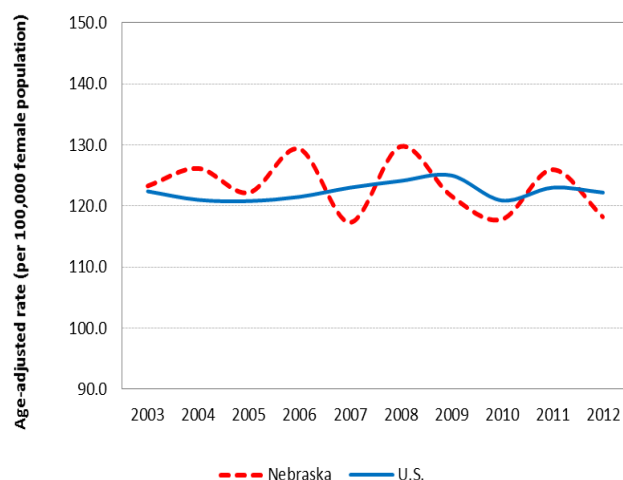


Figure 3. Female Breast Cancer Mortality Rates, Nebraska & U.S. (2003-2012)

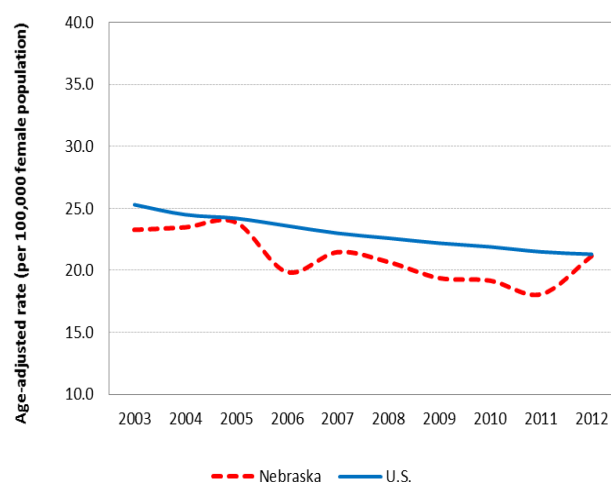
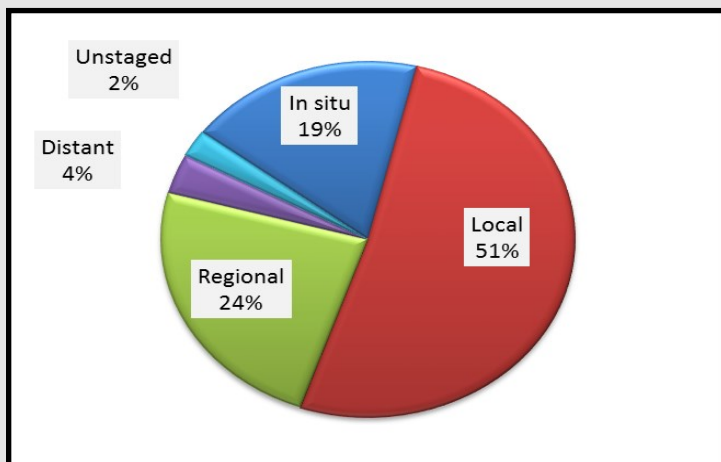


Figure 4. Female Breast Cancer: Percentage of Cases, by Stage of Disease at Diagnosis, Nebraska, 2008-2012



- Between 2008 and 2012, 70% of female breast cancer cases in Nebraska were diagnosed at an early stage (local or in situ) of development (Figure 4).
- Stage of disease at diagnosis strongly affects the prognosis for breast cancer patients. The most recent national data show that the 5-year relative survival rates for female breast cancer are nearly 100% for early stage (local and in situ) diagnoses, but are much lower for later stage (distant) cases (25%).

Female Breast Cancer Risk Factors and Screening

- Risk factors for female breast cancer include age, a personal or family history of breast cancer, genetic traits (BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes), some forms of benign breast disease, early menstruation, late menopause, never having children or having a first child after age 30, and for post-menopausal women, obesity and long-term hormone replacement therapy.
- Screening for breast cancer is known to save lives, but opinion varies on how and when to screen. The most current breast cancer screening recommendations from the American Cancer Society advise that women age 40 years of age and older should have a screening mammogram once a year, while the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends mammography only for women 50-74 years on an every other year schedule.
- According to data collected by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System in 2012, 72.9% of Nebraska women 50 years of age or older have had a mammogram in the past 2 years.
- The Every Woman Matters program provides free and low-cost mammograms for Nebraska women 40 to 74 years of age who meet certain income eligibility guidelines. To find out if you qualify visit: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/EWM/Pages/Home.aspx> or call (800) 532-2227.

About the Nebraska Cancer Registry

The Nebraska Cancer Registry (NCR) was created by the Nebraska Unicameral in 1986 and began collecting data in 1987. The purpose of the registry is to document new cases of cancer among Nebraska residents, analyze geographic patterns and long-term trends, and plan and evaluate cancer control programs. The registry also provides statistical and other information about cancer in Nebraska in response to specific requests. The NCR collects information about cancer cases from every hospital in the state (excluding U.S. Dept. of Veteran's Affairs facilities), pathology laboratories, outpatient therapy sites, physician offices, death certificates, and cancer registries in neighboring states. In recognition of the accuracy and completeness of the data it has collected, the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries has awarded the NCR its gold standard certificate of data quality for 18 consecutive years (1995-2012). The NCR is managed by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

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To learn more about the Nebraska Cancer Registry, or to view additional fact sheets and reports, visit:
http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/ced_cancer_data.aspx.